City of Lafayette Staff Report

For:	City Council
By:	Matt Luttropp, Associate Engineer
Date Written:	April 2, 2008
Meeting Date:	April 14, 2008
Subject:	Amendment to the 2008 CIP

Introduction / Discussion

Since the adoption of the 2008 CIP last June, staff has received notification of grant awards from various sources for the following three safety and transportation projects:

Camino Diablo Guard Rail Project-

The project will install approximately 250 linear feet of metal beam guard rail along the north side of the roadway curve between Nogales Street and Camino Court to prevent vehicles that leave the roadway at the curve from careening down a ravine and into Reliez Valley Creek. The street experiences a high-number of speeding vehicles and accidents in this area. The Circulation Commission responded to area residents' request for action with a recommendation for a guard rail, which now can be installed using a federal grant.

Federal Highway Safety Improvement Program Grant	$ 30,000
City Matching Funds (Required, 10% of grant amount)	$ 3,000
Total Project Budget	$ 33,000

Bikeways Master Plan Implementation Project, Phase I

The project will implement the top 8 projects listed in the City of Lafayette Bikeways Master Plan, adopted by the City Council in September 2006. These projects include signage and striping changes to selected streets to implement bike boulevards, bike lanes, and bike routes. The City is eligible to receive $46,000 from a Transportation Development Act grant for these projects. The preliminary estimate for the work indicates that the City may need to provide matching funds of approximately $12,000. At this time staff recommends allocating $46,000 in grant funds to the project to allow bid documents to be completed, with a determination of matching funds, if any, to be made after project bids have been opened.

Transportation Development Act (TDA) Grant	$ 46,000
City Matching Funds	$ TBD
Total Project Budget	$ 46,000

Stanley Boulevard/Warner Court Intersection Safety Project

The project will realign the existing T-intersection to increase safe stopping sight distance to and from Warner Court. This realignment will bring the stop bar on Warner Court further "out" into the intersection for better sight lines. The two Stanley Boulevard approaches will also be realigned slightly, and traffic islands and medians will be installed to better channelize approaching traffic and encourage slower vehicle speeds. The City Council will recall adopting the Stanley/Springbrook Neighborhood Traffic Calming Plan last month. This project will incorporate a limited number of traffic calming features at and near the intersection as a first phase of the overall plan.

Transportation Development Act (TDA) Grant	$ 78,450
City Matching Funds (Required, 10% of grant amount)	$ 7,850
Total Project Budget	$ 86,300

Staff will be designing the Camino Diablo Guard Rail Project as well as the Bikeways Master Plan Project in house. Due to the relatively small size of these project staff believes that they can be designed and constructed by late fall 2008. Design work for the Stanley Boulevard/Warner Court Project can begin, with construction possibly deferred until 2009.

Fiscal Impacts

The planning level cost estimate for the three projects is $177,000 with the City being eligible to receive $154,450 in grant funding for the projects. At this time, staff recommends that the City's matching share for the grants be allocated for two of the three projects, totaling roughly $11,000. Staff further recommends that the $3,000 match for the guardrail project be allocated from the capital program fund (Fund 014) balance, and the $7,850 match for the Stanley Boulevard project come from the Traffic Calming Reserve, which currently has a balance of $299,000.

CEQA Compliance

As part of the grant application for the Bikeways Master Plan Implementation Project, staff previously determined the project qualified for CEQA categorical exemptions under Section 15301C. A notice of exemption was recorded for this project.

As part of the grant application for the Camino Diablo Guard Rail Project and the Stanley Boulevard/Warner Court Intersection Safety Project, staff previously determined the projects to be categorically exempt under NEPA (the federal environmental process). At this time staff has also determined that both qualify for CEQA categorical exemptions under Section 15301C governing minor alteration to existing streets, sidewalks, and trails within the existing right-of-way. Staff recommends that the Council adopt a categorical exemption finding and authorize staff to record a Notice of Exemption for both projects.

Recommendation

1. Adopt a CEQA Categorical Exemption finding under Section 15301C for the Camino Diablo Guard Rail Project and the Warner Court Traffic Calming and Safety Project and authorize staff to record a Notice of Exemption.

2. Establish a budget of $33,000 for the Camino Diablo Guard Rail Project, Project Number 014-9669

3. Establish a budget of $46,000 for Bikeways Master Plan Implementation Project, Phase I , Project Number 014-9670

4. Establish a budget of $86,300 for the Stanley Boulevard/Warner Court Intersection Safety Project, Project Number 014-9671